

# ELKINS PLEADS FOR RAILROADS

Asks That Operation of Commodity Rate Clause Be Suspended.

WOULD GIVE ROADS MORE TIME TO SELL

Insists That on Account of Panic the Railroads Have Been Unable to Dispose of Their Holdings in Mines and Kindred Properties.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—Late in the session of the Senate Senator Elkins succeeded in getting consideration for his resolution to suspend the operation of the commodity clause of the railroad rate law, which clause became effective to-day. Under the operation of this clause railroads would be liable to heavy fines if they underlook to haul in interstate commerce any articles or commodities produced from manufacturing or mining interests. The railroads contend that they have had insufficient time to dispose of such property interests.

The resolution originally proposed to extend the time for the commencement of the operation of the commodity clause until May 1, 1910, but the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee changed the date to January 1, 1910, Culberson Objects.

When the measure was called up several days ago it went over under objection from Mr. Culberson, the minority leader of the Senate, but it was taken up to-day by vote of the Senate. Mr. Culberson had refused unanimous consent, and he was first recognized to speak against the resolution. He said that the committee had given no reasons why the clause should be suspended, and he called upon Chairman Elkins for an explanation. Mr. Elkins answered that the condition of the country demands a delay in the operation of the law—that the railroads have been unable to find capitalists to take over the coal lands owned by the roads. For this situation he blamed the recent panic, and he said that had it not been for this money shortage and business depression the railroads would have been able to comply with the law. He called attention to the fact that the bill did not repeal the law, but only suspended it temporarily.

The Lackawanna and the Reading Railroads were specially chartered by States to own coal lands, the Senator said, and he showed that the properties were mortgaged and re-mortgaged, and that difficulty had been experienced in separating these obligations. Other railroads owning coal lands, from the same position, he declared. Mr. Nelson said it appeared that the railroads were against complying with the law, and that they now invoked Congress to enact such legislation. He expressed the opinion that the railroads were not entitled to any special consideration.

Mr. Culberson's Plan.

Mr. Culberson construed the commodity clause as not preventing the railroads from owning coal lands, from mining the coal, or selling the product of the mines. He said that the coal could be sold at the mine to independent dealers, who could ship the coal over the railroad wherever they pleased, and there would be no violation of the law.

Mr. Warren said that such a transaction would be a perfectly patent evasion of the law.

Mr. Culberson admitted that a deal of this character might be open to suspicion, but he declared there would be no technical violation of the law.

Senator Elkins was permitted to perfect his resolution in accordance with recommendations of the committee. A large number of amendments were then offered to the resolution.

Mr. Fulton offered an amendment requiring the railroad to keep on file all schedules, including joint rates.

Mr. Foraker previously had introduced an amendment as a substitute for the resolution, which provided that the commodity clause should not be retroactive, or, in other words, would not apply to railroads hauling products of mines or manufacturing which were owned by the railroads at the time the law was passed.

Mr. McBurney offered an amendment to the resolution which provides that railroads shall not charge a greater tariff for a short haul than for a long haul. He said that the evils which have grown up under these practices have attracted the attention of the country, and unless they are removed the country will never hear from them at the next election.

During his speech he roundly denounced the trusts, commended the President's recent message outlining measures for relief, spoke of the removal of the motto, "In God we trust," from the coins, and declared that John D. Rockefeller, the Standard Oil Company and J. Pierpont Morgan should be indicted for treason. He also said his respects to the subsidized press.

HOUSE SPENDS THE DAY ON SUNDAY CIVIL BILL.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 1.—The House spent all of today's session in (Continued on Second Page.)

WHOLE NUMBER 17,913.

## NO CLUE TO ROBBERS

Army of Detectives at Work, But No Headway Made—Loss Small.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., May 1.—Officials of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and the Adams Express Company tonight have but little more accurate information on the daring robbery of the express car on the fast New York-St. Louis Express at Walker's Mills, just beyond the city limits of Pittsburgh, last night, than was given them in the first report of the theft telegraphed when the train reached Steubenville, Ohio.

Pinkerton detectives were early put in charge of the case, and together with the secret service forces of the railroad and the city and county detectives have been at work all day, but to-night report little progress.

Express Messenger Noah H. Roshan, fifty-three years of age, an old employee of the Express Company, who was in the car when the robbery was committed, was ordered to return to Pittsburgh when the train reached Columbus early to-day, and from the time of his arrival here until late this afternoon was in conference with the officials and detectives, part of the time undergoing a sweating process. At the end of the day he left for his home, officials of the company stating that there was no charge against him, and that he was not even being kept under surveillance.

It is now positively well established that the robbers did not get over \$600, of which \$441.71 was in currency in three packages and the balance in several small packages of merchandise, presumably jewelry. The robbers cast aside a number of valuable packages that were bulky, and evidently were after nothing but cash. The woods round about Walker's Mills has been only information that the robbers saw two men, presumably the robbers, saw a third, who had a buggy, and drive away just after the train was stopped at the station.

## WELLS-FARGO IS ROBBED

Sum of \$63,000 Reported to Have Been Taken From Through Train.

LAREDO, TEXAS, May 1.—The Wells-Fargo Express Company has reported to the Federal Reserve Bank at Laredo, a loss of \$63,000 in Mexican currency, which they claim was taken from a through safe on their City of Mexico Express, which was en route from Laredo to Mexico City, on the night of April 30th.

One of the banks of Chihuahua, two arrests have been made in Torreon, although it is not believed by the officials here that the men who were arrested have the money.

It appears that one of the agents of the company has been captured at a station between the city of Mexico and Torreon, afterwards leaving the train. It is said that he was the only man who saw the robbers, who knew the combination of the safe.

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# WOMEN WORKERS

President, Addressing Large New England Delegation, Praises Work.

PLACE FOR THE CLUB IN LIFE OF TOILERS

Believes These Working Women's Organizations Strike Happy Medium Between Drudgery and All Pleasure—A Friendly Word of Warning.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—President Roosevelt presented his views regarding women's clubs to-day in addressing 600 New England women who are in Washington sightseeing. The visitors are members of the National League of Women Workers. Both the President and Mrs. Roosevelt gave a cordial greeting to the workers and shook hands with them.

The President, addressing them, said: "It is a very real pleasure to greet you to-day. I often meet delegations from the east room of the White House, all of them women, and I am glad to see you. I would not be at all the position that I do hold; I would not be a good American, if I did not take a personal interest in exactly the kind of club which is represented here to-day."

Our Attitude to Women.

"I think it is highly typical of our people that we should be able to gather together in organizations for social and intellectual betterment, and interested though I am in such organizations of men, I am even more interested when they are managed by and controlled in the interest of women, and particularly working women, and working girls. If I were asked to point out what in my judgment was the fundamental difference between the United States and any European country, even the most advanced, I should say that the fundamental difference in our favor was the different attitude toward women here, the greater chance the woman has for combining with a life of duty the chance of self-improvement."

Make the Club an Adjunct.

"Of course, in any movement for betterment there are always dangers. I do not know very much about women's clubs or girls' clubs, but I do know about men's clubs, and though I thoroughly believe in the value of clubs, I then meet a man who mistakes the means for the end, whose life is led as an adjunct to the club, instead of the club being an adjunct to his life. I see that in the occasional instances of this kind in the women's clubs, any movement of this kind it is always a little difficult to combine the two principles of doing your work well, and yet of having as good a time as is compatible with the doing of your work."

There are always certain number of people who never try to be anything but drudges, and a certain number of others who make having a good time the be all and end all of life, and I think that the women's clubs strike the happy medium as well as any organization that I know; I believe in them with all my heart; I am glad to see you as representatives of them here to-day, and I wish you all possible good fortune and success in the future."

GERMAN SHIP STILL ASHORE

Wind and Sea Decreasing, and the Peter Rickmers to Be Floated to-day.

NEW YORK, May 1.—The great four-masted German ship, Peter Rickmers, which left New York yesterday for Rangoon, loaded with coal oil, was driven ashore on the south coast of Long Island last night in a heavy gale, and was still ashore to-night, with life-saving crews unable to board her.

Wind and sea were decreasing to-night, so there is no danger of her breaking up. The crew remained on board, and were doing work, and the revenue cutter Mohawk will stay throughout the night. Efforts will be made to refloat the ship to-morrow.

The Nello, a German schooner, sailed from New York to-day, carrying a cargo of oil from the Standard Oil Company, valued at \$80,000. The vessel is valued at \$60,000. She carried a crew of thirty or thirty-five men.

TWO BARGES GO DOWN

Crews of the Nello and the Gertrude Have Narrow Escapes.

BALTIMORE, Md., May 1.—After a terrible night fighting, the women's clubs strike the happy medium as well as any organization that I know; I believe in them with all my heart; I am glad to see you as representatives of them here to-day, and I wish you all possible good fortune and success in the future."

Three Negroes Hanged

Two For Murdering Aged Woman and the Other For Killing Man.

COLUMBIA, S. C., May 1.—Ned and Brack Toland, two young negroes, who were hanged yesterday for the murder of an aged white woman, at Cayce, Lexington county, two months ago, were hanged at the Lexington jail at noon to-day.

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MR. CLEVELAND ILL

New York Paper Declines That Ex-President Has Cancer of the Stomach.

NEW YORK, May 1.—Considerable anxiety was occasioned to-day by widely circulated news that President Cleveland had cancer of the stomach. The Evening World gave prominence to reports current at the hotel where Mr. Cleveland is staying, and the publisher of the paper, Mr. Cleveland, who has been ill for several weeks at a hotel in Lakewood, N. J., had assumed a grave phase, and that slight hopes were entertained of his recovery. The Evening World gave prominence to reports current at the hotel where Mr. Cleveland is staying, and the publisher of the paper, Mr. Cleveland, who has been ill for several weeks at a hotel in Lakewood, N. J., had assumed a grave phase, and that slight hopes were entertained of his recovery.

Conductors and Motormen Voting on Question of Quitting Work.

NEW COMPANY REFUSES TO INCREASE THE PAY

Men Claim Contract Rights Under Promise of Old Company, but President Dupont Denies This and Appeals for Time to Solve All Problems.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, May 1.—Street motormen and conductors of the Municipal Traction Company continued voting to-night on the question of calling a general strike, and at 11:30 o'clock it was not definitely known what the result would be. Members of the executive committee of the car men's union, however, stated that the sentiment was strongly in favor of the war measure. The count of the tally will be made at 11 o'clock to-morrow.

Refused Advance in Wages.

This crisis came late to-day, when President Dupont of the Municipal Traction Company, refused the demands of the employees, who asked for a wage increase of 2 cents an hour.

The employees claim that the company now operating the lines with 3 cent fare is under contract obligation to grant the raise in wages, as this concession was made by the Cleveland Electric Company, to become effective upon the settlement of the general street railway situation. The new company hold that they are not bound by any agreement made by the old company. The new company did, however, grant an increase of 1 cent an hour last Wednesday, the day the low rate of fare was established. Protracted sessions of the car men's union began this evening, and votes are being taken on the question of striking. Adolph Beyer, vice-president of the Amalgamated Association of Streetcar and Electric Railway Employees, stated that a general strike would doubtless be called for Sunday morning unless President Dupont makes the concession demanded.

A strike of 100 track layers began to-day, following a reduction of 2 cents an hour in their wages. This wage order affected 300 men.

Sixty former employees of the old company were discharged to-day by the holding company.

Asked to Wait a Year.

In a public statement to-day President Dupont requested the conductors and motormen to wait a year before demanding the additional increase in pay. The head of the new company expressed the hope that the parties would be patient and that the employees would give the company time in which to solve all problems that have arisen since the 3 cent fare was put into operation.

The matter of free transfers and the rate of fare to be charged to the suburban districts, and other questions which now are before the company.

The street car situation was the only labor disturbance of importance in Cleveland.

ONE KILLED; FIVE INJURED

Serious Explosion and Fire in Chicago Reduction Plant.

CHICAGO, ILL., May 1.—Andrew Marshall was killed and five others were seriously injured to-night in an explosion and fire which destroyed the Chicago Reduction Company's plant at Thirty-ninth and Iron Streets. Five other employees are missing. The explosion occurred shortly after midnight shift had gone to work. Its cause is not known.

Marshall, all aflame, was dragged from the building and plunged in the river. He was dead when taken from the water. John Steward, the most seriously injured, was blown from a fourth-story window to the roof of a freight car fifty feet away. His clothing was ablaze, and he may die.

The company was engaged in the reduction of garbage. The property loss is \$100,000.

JEALOUS, HE SHOTS THREE

Young Italian Wounds Sweetheart, Rival and a Visitor.

EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO, May 1.—Rafael Frasca, a young Italian, shot and wounded three persons, two of them fatally, to-day. The victims, Christiana Pappademos, shot through the lungs; Rafael Comit, her sweetheart, shot in the shoulder; Pietro Nicolotti, shot in the back.

All three are in the hospital and the condition of the girl and Nicolotti is critical. The shooting took place in the store of the girl's father. Frasca was jealous of Comit. He walked into the store and it is alleged, fired with out a word. The first bullet intended for Comit, hit Nicolotti. The girl, Frasca's visitor from Pittsburgh, the two others were then shot. Frasca fled and has not been captured.

DIRECTS EXPOSITION RECEIVERS TO SUE FOR UNPAID STOCK

NORFOLK, VA., May 1.—In the United States court to-day Judge Edmund Waddill instructed the receivers of the Jamestown Exposition Company to proceed against all subscribers to the common stock holdings of the company whose stock subscriptions have not been paid in full. Associate Counsel T. J. Wool was named to assist Harry S. George Tucker.

FARMERS OF LOUISA WARNED NOT TO GROW TOBACCO

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] FREDERICK'S HALL, VA., May 1.—The farmers of this community are very much agitated and excited, especially the colored ones, on account of being notified by supposedly "night riders" not to raise any tobacco, or they would experience serious trouble. Many such notices have been posted on rural free delivery mail boxes.

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Fair and warmer.

# LOOK FOR STRIKE OF CLEVELAND MEN

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PILING UP EVIDENCE

Witness Says Paper Trust is Ruining Owners of Small Newspapers.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 1.—Testifying to-day before the House select committee on wood pulp and paper investigation, Medill McCormick, publisher of the Chicago Tribune, explained his several paper contracts of the last ten years, and said that although he had a five-year contract, with one year yet to run, with the International Paper Company, the price had been gradually increased from \$1.85 per hundred to \$2.20. He said although his purchases amount to 14,000 or 15,000 tons a year, he was not at all satisfied regarding his paper supply for next year.

In under a rigid cross-examination Mr. McCormick testified that shortly before making his last contract with the International Paper Company, he had bought a small paper, with an office in the city. Subsequently, through a traveling representative, the Watertown company asked to be relieved of its contract, and on the same day, within an hour, an agent of the International Paper Company appeared in his office and asked for the same terms.

The committee entered into an informal discussion as to the probable effect on the House of its representation of the paper trust.

In the opinion of Mr. Stafford, the recommendations of the committee would be followed by the House.

Continuing his testimony, Mr. McCormick declared that the passage of the Stevens bill, removing the duty on wood pulp, would have a very marked effect the relief sought. Mr. McCormick said the increased price of paper meant an additional outlay by him of \$100,000 a year. He added that the committee would look into the condition of some of the smaller publishers they would find that in many cases they were not able to compete with the big paper on a good living had lost that living.

In the opinion of Mr. McCormick, the emergency of the case fully justified immediate action by Congress without going into a general revision of the tariff.

Further evidence was submitted by John Norris, representing the American Newspaper Publishers' Association, that there is a combination or agreement in restraint of trade among the several groups of papermakers.

"You claim," said Chairman Mann, "the advance is in part caused by an artificial combination; that there is an artificial price; that it is fostered by the tariff. Is that so?"

Mr. Norris also gave testimony showing that there is a combination, but suppose it should appear that the enhancement in price is caused by the increase in the cost of material or labor, and not by reason of a combination, do you think then we ought to recommend a removal of the tariff?"

Prices Without Justification.

Mr. Norris answered that that was such an impossible question that he could not give an answer that would clearly state his mind. He said the publishers would substantially agree with him in his testimony. He said that there not only was a combination, but that the prices which were being charged were absolutely without justification.

The statement of the manufacturers, he said, as to the cost of production were absolutely untrue. Mr. Norris said in answer to the question that the full measure of relief desired by the publishers could not be obtained without the removal of the tariff.

Mr. Norris also gave testimony showing the existence of a box board pool, which, he said, collapsed April 1st of the present year.

Prices fell to the point where the mills, he said, had been an extremely lively competition in that line.

The witness also reported former statements relating the claim of the papermakers that the increased price of paper was due to higher wages for labor and to a shortage of machinery. The paper workers are paid less per week than the followers of any single occupation reporting to the New York Times.

The hearing will be continued to-morrow.

NO FINANCIAL BILL

Believed That Republicans Will Merely Avoid a Vote on Contention.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.) WASHINGTON, D. C., May 1.—The Republicans of the House will hold a conference Monday night for the purpose of considering the course of action to be pursued on the financial bill.

It is certain that an effort will be made to reach an agreement on a bill to be supported, but it is almost officially current that no agreement will be reached.

It is believed on all sides that the conference will result in an agreement to adopt a resolution postponing consideration of the bill until after the session of currency conditions and needs, to report at the next session. The Republicans wanted to hold a caucus, every participating member to be bound by the decision thereof, but the opposition to such a course was so strong that a conference was agreed upon instead.

SHOW OUR FIGHTING FORCE

Nearly the Entire Navy to Stem in Golden Gate Together.

MONTEREY, CAL., May 1.—The Atlantic fleet of battleships steamed in here to-day to give Monterey Peninsula a place in the history of the American navy record-breaking cruise around the world.

The residents of Monterey and Pace Grove, and all the other settlements of the vicinity, made the occasion of the arrival a holiday. They lined the waterfront when the fleet dropped anchor at 6 o'clock this morning.

From the view of the battleships, the divisional formation—four lines of four ships each, with the flagships Connecticut, Georgia, Alabama and Missouri at the head of each column.

Throughout the day the streets and the decks of the battleships were thronged with visitors. A gale, which swept away the heavy clouds of the anchoring hour and transformed the usually placid waters of the bay into a choppy sea, did not deter the hundreds upon hundreds who desired to see the ships at close range.

A great variety of entertainments were given for the men and the officers of the fleet, marked the first day of the battleships' stay.

New orders were issued to-day, covering the entry of the fleet through the Golden Gate into San Francisco Bay on Wednesday next. It is ordered that all of the vessels of the Pacific fleet shall join the Atlantic battleships outside the Golden Gate and steam with them through the harbor entrance to the anchorage in the bay, where the review of the navy is to be